



5th Annual Library of Virginia Literary Awards Honor Virginia Authors

Tom De Haven, Kent Newmyer and R. T. Smith are the winners of the 5th Annual Library of Virginia Literary Awards announced at a gala celebration on September 21, 2002, at the Library of Virginia. Secretary of Education Belle S. Wheelan served as host for the event. More than 100 books received nominations this year for the awards of which nine were selected as finalists. Award categories were fiction, non-fiction and poetry.

Midlothian novelist Tom De Haven, a nationally recognized expert on the history of comics, is the fiction winner for *Dugan Under Ground*, which completes a raucous tour of America in the 20th century told through the world of comic strips and their creators. This trilogy began with *Funny Papers* and *Derby Dugan's Depression Funnies*, the latter a recipient of the American Book Award. *Dugan Under Ground* is an unsentimental look at the 1960s counterculture and the underground-comic scene. De Haven teaches at Virginia Commonwealth University. A New Jersey native De Haven has lived in Virginia for 12 years and acknowledges that he is now a Virginia writer.

R. Kent Newmyer, author of *John Marshall and the Heroic Age of the Supreme Court*, won the prize for best ...see **Awards**, pg. 7



Poetry winner R.T. Smith, Lifetime Achievement winner Mary Lee Settle, Secretary of Education Belle S. Wheelan, fiction winner Tom De Haven and non-fiction winner Kent Newmyer at the 5th Annual Awards Celebration.

CANCELLED SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE A FIRST SIGN OF BUDGET PINCH

Already hurting as a result of 23-percent reduction in its operating budget since the beginning of FY 2002, the Library of Virginia is bracing for another round of reductions that will greatly reduce the purchase of books, scholarly journals and periodicals. The Library of Virginia—as the state's legislatively mandated reference library—has strived to maintain an extensive subscription

list of research resources to assist individuals, businesses, museums, historical societies, not-for-profit organizations, schools, state and local governments, and the commonwealth's 90 public library systems.

Because of significant state budget reductions, the Library has reduced its subscription list substantially. The Library has cancelled more than 290 subscriptions, totaling \$64,318.

The cancellation of these subscriptions is one of many actions necessitated by the weak economy and the current state budget deficit in excess of \$1.5 billion. State agencies face reductions in their general fund budgets for FY 2003 and 2004 of seven percent, 11 percent, or 15 percent. These reductions are in addition to the 7 percent and 8 percent reductions already included in the 2002 Appropriations Act. Last winter the governor and the General Assembly

were forced to reduce state spending to close a \$3.8 billion deficit in the previously adopted budget for FY 2003 and 2004.

On August 19 Governor Mark Warner asked all state agencies to prepare plans for additional budget reductions by September 20. The Governor will announce the first round of reductions on October 15. By law the Governor can cut agency budgets by no more than 15 percent. Anything above that level requires action by the General Assembly, which meets in January.

The Library of Virginia faces layoffs, abolition of programs and services and a reduction in hours of operation. Already the acquisitions budget has been slashed as has funding for preservation and travel. Funding for every division and program of the Library has been cut and a hiring freeze has been in effect since August.



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ARCHIVES ADDS TO COLLECTIONS

During the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2002, the Library of Virginia Archives collections added 321 cubic feet of materials, 955 microfilm reels, 31 maps and two compact discs. Among these new collections are items of interest to a wide range of users. A representative selection of new collections follows.

Business Records

Kerr Caskey and Company. Letter, January 15, 1840, sent from Kerr Caskey and Company, tobacco merchants in Richmond, Virginia, to John McKeage (b. ca. 1791) in Clarksville, Tennessee, concerning credits and debts, the purchase of tobacco, the price of tobacco in London, the projected effect of this price on planters and merchants in Virginia and cash payments drawn on a Philadelphia bank. Purchased. (Accession 38608)

Church Records

St. Luke's Episcopal Church. Records, 1929–2001, of St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Alexandria, Virginia, consisting of 17 volumes of parish registers (1929–1968), registers of baptisms (1963–2000), communicants (1961–1998), confirmations (1961–2001), and marriages (1966–1985) and registers of church services (1940–1999). Lent for microfilming by St. Luke's Episcopal Church. (38555)

County Records

Augusta County. Orphans bond, 1823. Purchased. (Accession 39656)

Hanover County. Tax fee bill, 1792. Purchased. (Accession 39545)

Lancaster County. Sheriff's record book, 1828. Lent for copying. (Accession 39425)

Princess Anne County. "Free Negroes and Mulattoes Register," 1830–1862. Gift. (Accession 37116)

Genealogical Notes and Charts

236 Years of People Named Duke in Nansemond County, Virginia. Compiled by C. Fred Duke in 2002. Includes abstracts of deeds, military, census, and tax records. Gift of C. Fred Duke. (Accession 39451)

Richardsons of New Kent County, Virginia & Their Kin. Includes information on the descendants of Richard Richardson (d. 1744) of New Kent County, Virginia, including information on lines that settled in James City County, Virginia. Includes copies of

inventories, pension records, photographs, surveys and wills. Also includes an index. Compiled by Alecia J. Tipton in 2002. Gift of Selden Richardson. (Accession 39580)

Organization Records

Emory and Henry College. Account books, 1836–1929, of Emory and Henry College in Emory, Washington County, Virginia, detailing in 61 volumes the many financial aspects of the educational institution. Lent for microfilming by Emory and Henry College Archives. (Accession 38522)

Martha Washington College. Records, 1868–1929, of Martha Washington College in Abingdon, Washington County, Virginia, consisting of 14 account books (1905–1928), Student Council minute books (1920–1927) and student registers (1868–1929). Lent for microfilming by Emory and Henry College Archives, Emory and Henry College. (Accession 38523)

Personal Papers

Anson-Greene-Gravely families. Papers, 1832–1999, of the Anson, Greene, and Gravely families of Augusta, Henry, and Norfolk counties, Virginia, of Georgia and Maryland and England and Ireland. The bulk of the collection covers the period 1900 to 1940. Includes correspondence, subject files, photographs, albums, scrapbooks and publications. Gift of Nina Anson Gravely. (Accession 38550)

Bagby family. Papers, 1894–1914, of the Bagby family of Lunenburg County, Virginia. Includes a survey of J.D. Bagby's land, 1894, and two deeds for land in Lunenburg County, Virginia, dated 1901 and 1914. Gift of Jerry L. Dagenhart. (Accession 39385)

Bocock, Thomas S. Letters, 1848–1880, to Thomas S. Bocock (1815–1891) of Appomattox County, Virginia, concerning national politics, specifically the presidential elections of 1848 and 1880; the Compromise of 1850; the election of the clerk of the House of Representatives in 1851; Hinton Rowan Helper's *The Impending Crisis of the South*; Virginia politics, including the House of Delegates race in Buckingham County; the Richmond and Danville and the Virginia and Tennessee Railroads; the "Winthrop House" in Boston, Massachusetts; and Commodore John Rodgers' naval expedition of exploration

to the Arctic Ocean and to Asia. Purchased. (Accession 39650)

Carter, William R. Diaries, covering the period May 27, 1861, to June 7, 1864, of William R. Carter (1833–1864) of Nottoway County, Virginia, while he was serving with the 3rd Virginia Cavalry. There are two volumes of diaries. They were transcribed by his father, Sharpe Carter (b. 1812), after the war. The diaries record principal events in the history of the regiment, including troop movements and battles fought. Lent for copying by Eggleston Library, Hampden-Sydney College. (Accession 39390)

Granbery, John C. Record book, 1848–1885, containing sermons (October–November 1848) of John C. Granbery while serving as a traveling minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and accounts (1853–1885) of the Nottingham family for the sale of butter and other items. Also includes an estate account of Smith Nottingham. Purchased. (Accession 38764)

Hancock, Joseph. Papers, 1920–1926, of Joseph Hancock of Newport News, Virginia. Includes photographs, certificates, and menu from Newport News High School (Newport News, Va.). Also includes a copy of *The Beacon*, Newport News High School yearbook, 1925. Gift of Pattie Grady. (Accession 39606)

Hogan family. Papers, 1883–1908, of the Hogan family of Richmond, Virginia. Includes genealogical notes, photographs, obituaries and correspondence. Includes correspondence, 1907–1908, from Edwin Smith, of Florida, to his sister, Sue Smith, of Richmond, Virginia. Topics include Edwin's farm in Florida, family, and personal loans. Lent for duplication by Mark A. Duffer. (Accession 39454)

Kracke, Heinrich Frederic. Passport of Heinrich Frederic Kracke, which includes the birth dates of his children. Also included is a translation of the passport and Kracke family genealogical notes. Lent for duplication by Betty German. (Accession 39379)

Nye family. Papers, 1810–1975, of the Nye family of Washington and Wythe counties, Virginia, principally consisting of seven general store account books but also containing correspondence, receipts and clippings. Lent for microfilming by Emory and Henry College Archives, Emory and Henry College. (Accession 38524) ...see [Accessions](#), pg. 6

Library To Replace Automation System

After two years of planning and a thorough and competitive bid process, the Library of Virginia has selected the Aleph 500 integrated library system (ILS) from Ex Libris Inc. as its new library automation system. The Library of Virginia joins several other research libraries that use Ex Libris as their ILS provider. Among these institutions are Virginia Commonwealth University, Harvard, Notre Dame, MIT, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the state university systems of Florida, Minnesota and New York. The ability of Ex Libris software to deliver new services to users and its extraordinary flexibility made it an appealing choice as the Library of Virginia continues to build on its national and international reputation as a premier research and reference library.

The purchase of this critical component is key to increasing the agency's efficiency. The new system will allow the Library better

to serve its users and manage its collections. The new system will handle critical Library functions such as the Library's online catalog, circulation, acquisitions, interlibrary loan and cataloging. The new system will better serve the more 250,000 online and onsite Library users through improved system reliability and response time for searches, requests and access to resources.

The Library's current system was installed in the early 1980s and is several generations behind current ILS technology. The Library's current system is not Web-based, greatly complicating workflow and public services. Virginians using the Library's reading rooms currently have no access to electronic titles in the Library's collections, or to such resources available through other state agencies and research institutions.

For the first time users will be able to search across all of the Library's more than 50 online catalogs and databases of books,

manuscripts, state-agency publications, maps and pictorial resources via multiple and simultaneous searches grouped and organized by the user. Also, for the first time the Library will be able to offer a full range of online customer services when the system is fully implemented. Virginians will be able to review and update account information, request materials from home or office, seek resources through online interlibrary loan services, submit research queries, or check-out books, pay fees, even use copying and other services—all with a single Library card.

The Library of Virginia began planning to cover the cost of the new system two years ago, and those plans are still in place despite the present economy. The Library has secured a five-year lease-purchase arrangement, which will lessen the impact on the Library's budget in any given year. The Library will use non-general fund resources to cover this procurement.

Out of the Box: Funeral Home Records Document Richmond's Citizenry

Acquired in the late summer of 1993, the L. T. Christian Funeral Home records rested on the shelves of the fourth floor stack of the Library of Virginia as an untapped historical and genealogical resource until processing of the collection began earlier this year. The collection consists of 42 cubic feet of records pertaining to the funeral and burial services provided by the still extant company for decedents from 1912 until 1986. Processing of the records of this premier Richmond, Virginia, funeral parlor concluded in late August, and an accompanying online database now allows patrons and researchers to locate quickly any decedent's file in the collection.

Langdon Taylor Christian (1853-1935), the future owner of the prominent funeral home, was the son of a Charles City County farmer who emphasized fieldwork and not education. Christian had acquired only an elementary education when he decided to leave his family at the age of 18 and work in Richmond. After laboring for a time in a tobacco factory, Christian entered employment with John A. Belvin in 1872 in the leading furniture and undertaking establishment in

Richmond. Christian applied himself in this endeavor as a fine finisher, varnisher, and cabinet and casket maker. When Belvin died in 1880, Christian succeeded him, reorganizing the business to bear his name.

The files kept by L. T. Christian and his funeral home contain a mass of biographical data relative to every client of the company. As the funeral director, Christian and later his son and successor, L. T.

Christian, Jr. (1893-1975), were charged with the responsibilities of initiating and filing the required death certificates with state authorities and posting obituaries in newspapers. These tasks required amassing significant genealogical knowledge of each decedent including his or her full name, date and place of birth, date and place of death, cause of death, marital status, spouse's name, parents' names and places of birth, residence address, occupation, military service, education, religious affiliation, burial location and surviving family members. As standard procedure, the funeral home completed a sales agreement for each client that contained this information. Sales agreements ...see [Funeral](#), pg. 4



Gift of 1540 Facsimile Map In Remembrance of 9/11

As part of the Library of Virginia's remembrance of September 11, 2001, a 1540 facsimile map of the New World was displayed with Virginia's copy of the 1789 Bill of Rights and a photographic essay from the September 18, 2001, *Style Weekly* magazine.

Dr. Zsolt Török, a Hungarian cartographer, gave the map, *Novae Insulae, XVII Nova Tabula*, to the Library to acknowledge the tragic events of September 11. To show his sympathy he offered to interested American institutions ten copies of a map he first published in 1992 for the 500th anniversary of Columbus' discovery of the New World. He asked only for a letter of request including information about the repository, how and when the map would be displayed, and that the map would be available to the public.

In his letter of request, State Archivist Conley Edwards mentioned the losses following the attack on the Pentagon in Arlington County, Virginia, and that "the handsome facsimile you have so carefully produced would complement the Library's collection and would be a way to document the worldwide concern expressed by individuals such as yourself who are moved by this tragedy."

The map arrived on August 26 and Library staff members were invited to a preview of not only an extraordinary map made in the traditional manner, but also to see the personalized penciled inscriptions at the bottom: "To the American Nation. The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia U.S.A. Dedicated to the Memory of All Victims of September 11, 2001. Ex officina Dr. Zsolt Török, '92, Hungary." The Library of Virginia copy is marked as "No. 118" of the 500 published copies.

Novae Insulae, XVII Nova Tabula was the first published map to show the entire landmass of North and South America connected by what we now call Central America. It first appeared in the 1540 edition of Ptolemy's *Geography*, published in Basel, Switzerland. Sebastian Münster, the publisher, was an influential cartographer and scholar in the 16th century. The map was reproduced using stereographic techniques to cut the woodblock. It is printed on handmade paper with special watermarks to prevent its being mistaken for the 1540 edition, and it is hand colored.

Lack of exploration at this time and early perceptions resulted in a rather misshapen New World, especially North America. The error of the explorer Verrazano is perpetuated, showing a body of water off Pamlico and Albemarle sounds that he thought would lead to the riches of the

Far East. Decorative elements include a Portuguese flag flying over the South Atlantic, and the Spanish flag over its Caribbean possessions. *Mare pacificum*, or the Pacific Ocean, appears here for the first time on a printed map, with Magellan's ship *Victoria* depicted in the middle of the ocean.

The Library of Virginia is the seventh repository to receive a copy of the map, joining the Library of Congress, Geography and Map Division, The American Geographical Society, Harvard University, The Newberry Library, The Osher Map Library and Smith Center and the New Jersey Historical Society. In one of his communications with the state archivist, Dr. Török said, "It is very sad that after many centuries passed there are people who still can not and would not understand others." Yet the gift of this map to the Library of Virginia and other American repositories is truly a much-appreciated symbol of understanding from another part of the world.

—Marianne McKee,

Archival and Information Services

Funeral... are found in each decedent's file along with copies of every obituary posted and paid for by the funeral home.

Notable decedents included in the collection are former Virginia Governor James Hubert Price, department store founder Webster S. Rhoads, Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Douglas Southall Freeman, renowned author James Branch Cabell and pioneer aluminum magnate Richard S. Reynolds. Researchers also will find decedents whose vital statistics may breach the "missing" or "gap" years of 1896-1912 for state-kept vital records, as well as clients who were born prior to 1853 when vital records first began to be collected by the state. Notably absent through this stage in the processing are African-American decedents, who were segregated into black-owned funeral parlors and cemeteries until laws and customs separating the races began to change in the 1960s and 1970s. Students of race relations may find this evidence intriguing to the study of segregation in pre-Civil Rights Richmond.

A database has been completed to provide ready access to the collection and allow researchers to locate files of interest quickly. The database contains the names of more than 9,000 decedents serviced by the funeral home and is searchable by full-name and year of death. Entries for each decedent listed in the database include the decedent's death or disinterment date along with the box and folder location for the file. To access the database go to the Library of Virginia Web site <www.lva.lib.va.us>, click on "What We Have," then click on "Business Records and Resources," and finally click on the L. T. Christian Funeral Home link.

Collection material can be accessed in the manuscripts reading room at the Library of Virginia. When requesting materials from the collection, please be specific and note the exact box and folder number along with the client's full name.

With the database now complete and the records processed, the L. T. Christian Funeral Home collection offers researchers a plethora of accurate and in-depth information on generations of Richmonders. The collection promises to provide a wealth of information to genealogists, scholars of local history and Richmond personalities, and perhaps even students of race relations.

—Alex Lorch

Collection Management Services



Public Reading of the Bill of Rights on 9/11/02

LIBRARY DEVELOPS VIRGINIA MILITARY DEAD DATABASE

In May 2000, a reporter for the *Bristol Herald Courier* called the Library of Virginia. The paper was putting together a series of anniversary reports covering the past century. For his article, the writer needed information about local military participation. How many men from the area had given their lives in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam? Reference librarian Edwin Ray promised to research the topic and get back to him.

From likely sources, such as annual reports of the Adjutant General of the State of Virginia, Ray was able to add up the numbers and provide a reasonable estimate for the immediate question. In doing so, he began to recognize the need for a comprehensive list of Virginia's military dead from various wars in an easily searchable format so that the reference staff could answer requests for names and/or numbers by locality without having to start from scratch each time. He began building such a database starting with the materials he had consulted for the *Herald Courier's* question.

Later, in October 2000, the *Free Lance-Star* in Fredericksburg posed a similar question. This time, however, the reporter wanted a list of names of those in the Fredericksburg area who died in World War I. By this time enough information had been compiled so that Ray was able to provide a list of 124 names easily enough to convince him self he was on the right track.

A year and a half later, after struggling with problems of database design and mounting on the Internet, of identifying geographic locations and of fitting meticulous research and data entry into existing workloads, Ray and his assistants were ready to introduce the first stage of the project. On May 21, 2002, the Library of Virginia launched the database of Virginia Military Dead choosing the Memorial Day holiday as a fitting time to remember Virginians who gave their lives for their country in the Spanish-American War, the Philippine Insurrection, the China Relief Expedition and World War I.

The list of sources has expanded. The Library, as might be expected with its outstanding collection of Virginiana, houses an impressive number of possible resources. Unindexed muster rolls in the Virginia

Adjutant General's reports provide names of soldiers, local address and outcome for Virginia National Guard units that were federalized for wartime service. Other sources include War Department lists for Army, Air Corps, Navy and Marines; roll of honor lists; local histories; college and university histories; unit histories; cemetery lists, and publications of the World War I History Commission. All provide data, but none is comprehensive. Remarkably, additional sources continue to appear. In fact, if the *Free Lance-Star's* question were posed today, an additional 51 names would be added to the list.

Entries for each conflict are linked to a corresponding source list. Multiple sources were used to compile the Spanish-American War and Philippine Insurrection portions of the database and more than 64 sources have been used for the World War I portion.

The searchable format of the database allows the user to query by name, by conflict, by combination of surname and conflict, by location or by cause of death. Information fields for each entry include name, conflict, gender, race, residence, county or city, branch of service, rank, cause of death, date of death, place of death, source(s) and notes. Data included is transcribed from the cited sources, and nothing else is added unless it can be documented. Conflicting or additional information is shown in the notes field.

The information in this database complements the information available in the World War I History Commission Questionnaires completed by veterans or surviving relatives. Surprisingly, 488 entries overlap where surviving relatives provided information and details of an individual's war experience. These entries are directly linked to the Library of Virginia's digital copies of the questionnaires available on its Web site.

During the development of the source lists for the database, a wide range of materials was found pertaining to many different aspects of what Virginians were doing during



Left: Eddie Baptist Crew (seated) of Mecklenburg County, VA and unidentified soldier; Right: William H. Hudgins of Matthews County, VA

these conflicts. A search for materials uncovered stories of home front support and sacrifice, military reminiscences and general histories as well as reference materials, registers of inductees, unit histories and magazine articles.

For instance, in *Historical and Biographical Sketches of Greensville County, Virginia, 1650-1967*, we learn that in April 1917, a popular young Presbyterian minister left his church to accompany soldiers from the area to Camp McClellan. When the division sailed for France in June 1918, Thomas McNeill Bulla went along as chaplain of the 116th Infantry. He stayed with his men in the trenches, assisting the wounded and the sick without regard to personal danger. Then, on October 15, 1918, during the battle along the Meuse, Bulla was himself wounded. He died two days later, at a hospital at Petite Mejoy, the only chaplain of a Virginia regiment to lose his life in World War I.

Back in Emporia and Greensville, civilians were supporting the war effort in their own ways. Liberty Bond quotas were consistently oversubscribed and conservation efforts such as meatless or ...see **Military**, pg. 7

Lynchburg Library Computer Program Draws Large Response

A computer instruction program run by the Lynchburg Public Library has met with public success in its first eight months of operation. On August 29, the program instructed its 2,000th student since commencing on January 2, 2002.

The program is partially supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, which has been placing computers in public libraries across the U.S. and Canada for about 4 years. The Lynchburg Public Library in 2001 received 8 personal computers for public use and the computer lab, equipped with 10 student computers, an instructor's computer and an overhead projector, together valued at \$75,000. Additionally the Library of Virginia provided \$14,000 for the cost of remodeling the space.

The foundation equipped a room in the library as a computer lab, with ten student computers, an instructor's computer and an overhead projector. The public instruction program targets basic computer literacy for adults. It teaches persons aged 18 and over beginning with a mouse and keyboard class, followed by classes in Internet use, word processing, email and use of the Windows operating system. Classes are 60 to 90 minutes long and each class is a complete, one-time event. Students may repeat a class once. In reaching 2,000 students, the program has held more than 300 classes. Stuart Byczynski, the computer lab coordinator, teaches the classes and also schedules the room for other uses that are not part of the library's statistics. The library has developed a joint instruction project with the city's Department of Recreation and Parks, which enrolls seniors. The students are then instructed in the library's lab by library staff. One interesting development in the computer lab has been the use of volunteers. The library has traditionally had a strong volunteer program, and volunteers have helped in the lab. Typically they sit in back and assist students who have a problem. However, one volunteer, a recent college graduate, taught several of the mouse and keyboard classes, while another, a high school sophomore, taught a six-session class in creating Web pages, attended by adults. "This is a great opportunity for young people to learn by teaching," Byczynski says.

Over time, the nature of the students has changed. Initially mostly retired women attended classes. Then younger students, both men and women, began attending, including nurses, teachers and salespeople. More recently a few classes have been almost entirely male and under 65 years of age, with increasing numbers of students in their early 20's.

Part of the program's success has been due to good media relations. Reporters and editors have been carefully solicited, and the program's opening in January was covered in a major article, with a large color photo, on the first page of one of the sections of Lynchburg's primary daily newspaper. Subsequently several papers have published the complete list of classes each month.

—submitted by Stuart Byczynski,
Lynchburg Public Library

STATE CELEBRATES ARCHIVES WEEK

The Commonwealth of Virginia celebrated Archives Week October 6 through 12 with special programs and events saluting the institutions and individuals that help preserve and make accessible the important records of our actions as citizens, businesses, religious groups, government and society. There are more than 200 local historical societies and archival repositories in the Virginia, aided in their work by dedicated professionals and groups of active volunteers. During Archives Week in Virginia, the Library of Virginia invited citizens to learn more about local archival institutions and encourages others to recognize the contribution of archives to the quality of life in our communities.

Accessions... *Shell, Louis C. Red Beech Farm: Its History and Its People*, containing a history of Red Beech Farm in Augusta County, Virginia, and the families who owned and worked the land on which it was built. Includes genealogical information on the Brown, McComb and Witt families, including copies of court records, deeds, estate accounts, maps, military service records, newspaper clippings, photographs, tax lists, transcripts of interviews and wills. Also includes a copy of an article published in *Victorian Homes*, describing the farmhouse's restoration and renovation. Gift of Louis C. Shell. (Accession 39013)

Smart, William. Papers, 1798-1857, of William Smart, of Gloucester County, Virginia, including affidavits, correspondence, currency, deeds, journals, marriage certificate and wills. Of note is an autobiography, which includes a description of Smart's arrival in the United States, and a journal of the voyage from England to the United States written by his father, William Smart, Sr., in 1798. Includes correspondence, dated 1800-1812, written to relatives on topics such as family, health, employment, descriptions of Virginia, including the Richmond Theater fire of December 26, 1811, and views of the political situation in the United States. Lent for copying by Mary Ball Washington Museum and Library. (Accession 39412)

Spencer, Irwin A. Letters, 1862-1864, written from Irwin A. Spencer, while he served with the 14th Connecticut Infantry. Includes a letter dated September 24, 1862, discussing casualties and troop movements after the Battle of Antietam. Also included is a letter dated August 23, 1864, near Petersburg, Virginia, regarding the campaign surrounding Petersburg and the friendly interaction between Union and Confederate soldiers during the lulls before battle. Purchased. (Accession 39640)

State Records

Department of Education. Correspondence and subject files, 1974-1998. Transfer. (Accession 39608)

Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation. Minutes, 1938-1995. Transfer. (Accession 39374)

Joint Legislative and Audit and Review Commission. Project records: Review of Virginia's system of capital punishment, 2001. Transfer. (Accession 39509)

—submitted by Renee Savits,
Collection Management Services



Military... wheatless days enthusiastically observed. Red Cross workers made socks and sweaters as well as surgical dressings. The Home Service Section assisted individual cases of hardship, illness, or death to relieve the pressure on soldiers far from home.

To assist researchers in finding these often-elusive materials, Ray has begun a series of comprehensive bibliographies of materials pertaining to Virginia participation in the conflicts, covering all the collections available in the Library of Virginia. These materials include books and magazine articles; government documents; archival collections such as personal papers, organization records and government records; maps; pictures; broadsides; and artifacts as well as the Library of Virginia's digital collections and a listing of

pertinent Web sites. Two of the bibliographies in the series have been completed: "Virginia's Participation in World War I" and "Virginia's Participation in the Spanish American War, 1898; the Philippine Insurrection, 1899–1901; and the China Relief Expedition, 1900–1901." Both are available in the reading rooms of the library, and may be viewed on the Library's Web site.

Ultimately, the Virginia Military Dead Database will contain information on as many as possible of Virginia's military personnel (full-and part-time, quasi-military and civilian employees) who have died in service in peacetime and in all of America's twentieth and twenty-first century wars and conflicts. At present, the database contains entries for more than 3,700 Virginia men and women

who died during the Spanish-American War, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border Punitive Expedition, and World War I. No Virginians have yet been identified among the casualties of the China Relief Expedition (Boxer Rebellion). For this Veterans' Day, November 11, 2002, the library will release the addition of about 850 names from the Korean War and about 1,300 names from the Vietnam War. Then the long process of entering approximately 7,500 names from World War II will begin.

Researchers and family historians will find many avenues to explore, while gaining new insights into the lives and times of these Virginia heroes.

—submitted by Gail Tatum,
Archival and Information Services

From the 5th Annual Library of Virginia Awards Celebration (left to right): Virginia Poet Laureate George Garrett presents the Poetry Award; Lifetime Achievement Award winner Mary Lee Settle dances; Non-Fiction winner Kent Newmeyer chats with nominee Mark Perry



Awards... work of non-fiction. Newmeyer's comprehensive and insightful look at Chief Justice John Marshall sets the standard for judicial biography. He captures the enduring impact of Marshall's ideas and vision on the Supreme Court. Newmeyer is a professor of law and history at the University of Connecticut School of Law. Newmeyer spent 12 years researching and writing his book on John Marshall.

R.T. Smith, editor of *Shenandoah: The Washington And Lee University Review*, is this year's poetry winner for *Messenger: Poems*. He is the author of 11 books of poems and *Faith*, a collection of short stories. *Messenger* offers vivid and lyrical reflections about nature and personal memories and a desire to nurture an Irish heritage. In accepting his award Smith commented on the significance of an award for poetry saying, "Poetry is one of the more invisible underground currents of culture." (The Library Shop at the Library of Virginia reports that the works of this year's poetry finalists are out-selling the books by the fiction and non-fiction finalists.)

Mary Lee Settle, author of more than 20 books and winner of numerous honors including the National Book Award, is the first living Virginia author to receive the Library of Virginia's Lifetime Achievement Award. One of the most respected Southern writers of our age Settle's body of work is meticulously researched and flawlessly written. She ranks as Virginia's most distinguished historical novelist.

Anne Hobson Freeman, a Virginia author and friend of Settle, presented her with the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Celebration. Settle thanked "librarians for saving the papers out of which all my work has been done."

Recipients of the 2002 Philanthropic Award are Henry and Kaye Spalding, of Richmond. The Spaldings are generous benefactors to the Library of Virginia, the Virginia Center for the Book and many other educational and cultural institutions, including Hampden-Sydney College.

Winners of the literary awards receive an engraved crystal book and \$1,000. Posters featuring the covers of the nine books selected as finalists and the names of all nominated books are distributed statewide and available for purchase through the Library Shop.

Sponsors of this year's Celebration were: Borders, a contributing sponsor; the Center for the Book at the Library of Congress, a contributing sponsor; the Fairfax Center for the Book and Ukrops Foundation, sponsors and *Style Weekly*, a Richmond, VA, publication, the media sponsor.

The Celebration featured readings from each of the nominated books. More than 200 people including all nine finalists were in attendance along with numerous other Virginia writers.

The annual literary awards celebration is held the third Saturday in September. Books eligible for the awards must have been written by a Virginia author or for non-fiction have a Virginia theme. Entries for the 2003 literary awards must have been published between January 1 and December 31, 2002. Entry forms can be found on the Library of Virginia's Web site at <www.lva.lib.va.us/whatwedo/awards/entries.htm>. An independent panel of judges selects the winners in the categories of fiction, non-fiction and poetry.

Richmond Public Library Offers Live Homework Help

Children and young adults in Richmond, Virginia, never have to be stumped by a homework assignment again. Students in grades four through twelve can visit the West End Branch of the Richmond Public Library and receive help from qualified tutors. The branch offers Live Homework Help, an online tutoring service from Tutor.com that connects students to expert tutors in math, science, social studies and English via the Internet.

This free service allows children to come to the West End Library Monday through Friday from 3:00 to 6:00 PM and on Saturday from 2:00 to 5:00 PM and receive homework help with a live tutor via the Internet. Students also can access the service when the Library is closed by logging onto the Richmond Public Library's Web site.

The tutors are certified teachers, college professors, professional tutors, and graduate students from across the country. Tutors and students can use features such as controlled chat, an interactive white board and shared Web browsing. Tutors and students can type math equations using a special math tool, share educational Web sites using a shared browser tool and much more for a rewarding learning experience.

Founded in partnership with the *Princeton Review*, Tutor.com is the leading provider of online tutoring services for educational institutions and individual students. Tutor.com currently provides tutoring services for the Boston Public Library, San Francisco Public Library, Louisville Free Public Library and GEAR UP Boston.

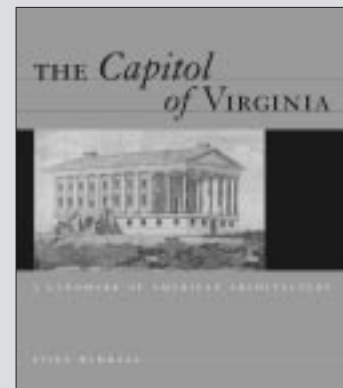
—submitted by Pat McKay, Richmond Public Library



SALEM FRIENDS HOST "THIS OLD BOOK"

As part of Salem's bicentennial celebration, the Friends of Salem Library hosted "This Old Book" on July 28, 2002. The public was invited to bring books for assessment by professional booksellers. In addition to determining book values, members of the panel offered help in using the Internet to find book values and historical information. Organizers believe that this was the first event of its kind in the Roanoke Valley.

—submitted by Sara Ahalt, Friends of Salem Library



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